

LIGHT ARMORED VEHICLE SERVICE LIFE EXTENSION PROGRAM (LAV SLEP)

DESCRIPTION



The Light Armored Vehicle Service Life Extension Program (LAV SLEP) will extend LAV service life through 2015; improve the readiness, survivability, and sustainability of these vehicles; and reduce the LAV fleet’s operations and support costs.

There are two parts to the SLEP program. The “Basic SLEP” consists of a package of upgrades intended to improve system survivability and sustainability and reduce operating and support costs. The second part centers on the Improved Thermal Sight System (ITSS), which replaces the current LAV-25 thermal sight system with a second-generation thermal sight, an integrated laser range finder, weapons fire control, and a far target location capability.

OPERATIONAL IMPACT

Currently, threat weaponry has evolved past the capabilities possessed by the LAV. The SLEP will improve the survivability of the LAV on the modern battlefield of 2015, enabling the Light Armored Reconnaissance battalion to better perform offensive and defensive missions or other operations that the supported commander may direct.

PROGRAM STATUS

The Basic SLEP portion passed Milestone III in April 2002. Initial Basic SLEP production kits were delivered starting in March 2003 and will continue delivery through March 2004. The Marine Corps has also exercised options for FY 2003 kits and initial installation. These kits will be installed at Marine Corps depots on LAVs undergoing IROAN (Inspect & Repair Only as Necessary) review and at fleet locations by contractor teams. ITSS prototypes are undergoing operational evaluation.



PROCUREMENT PROFILE:

Quantity:
ITSS

FY 04

23

FY 05

132

DEVELOPER/MANUFACTURER

Basic SLEP: DRS, Ft. Walton Beach, FL

Improved Thermal Sight System: Raytheon, McKinney, TX